



## Data User Guide

*This guide provides steps to access County Business Patterns (CBP) data in Comma Separated files (CSV) or the American FactFinder (AFF). You may also contact the U.S. Census Bureau's CBP staff at 301-763-2580 or [ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov](mailto:ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov) for assistance.*

Frequently Asked Questions	2
Definitions	3
Using the Homepage	4
Using the Data Page	5
Accessing Data Using American FactFinder (AFF)	6-8
American FactFinder Features	9-10
Searching for Statewide in AFF	11
Downloading Data (AFF and CSV)	
Downloading Data in AFF	12
Downloading Data in CSV	13-14
Additional Links	15



## Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the source of CBP data?**

CBP data are extracted from the Business Register, the Census Bureau's file of all known single and multi-establishment companies. Data comes from a variety of sources, including the [Economic Census](#), [the Annual Survey of Manufactures](#), and [Current Business Surveys](#), as well as from administrative records of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

- **Are sales and receipts data provided in CBP?**

No. Sales and receipts data are available from other Census Bureau programs. For more information, please see the [Census Bureau's economic data](#).

- **Can I find data on a specific company or get a list of companies in an area?**

The Census Bureau is forbidden by Federal Law, Title 13 of the U.S. Code, from providing data that can be linked to specific establishments, which includes any lists of companies in a designated area. Even revealing that an entity is in the data is prohibited under this law.

- **Can CBP be used as a time series?**

We don't recommend using CBP data as a time series. While CBP publishes annually, the data is meant to be more of a snap shot in time. Further, CBP does not revise data for prior years. CBP relies on administrative data that is subject to non sampling error.



## Definitions

- **Legal Form of Organization (LFO)** – An LFO is the organizational structure a firm chooses to adopt.
- **North America Industry Classification System (NAICS)** – The standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments. For more information, visit the [NAICS website](#).
- **Noise Infusion** – A method of disclosure avoidance in which values for each firm are perturbed prior to the data being released. Read more on our [How the Data Are Collected](#) page.
- **NOISE Flags**–
  - G - Low Noise Infusion
  - H - Medium Noise Infusion
  - J - High Noise Infusion
  - D - Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in higher level totals
  - S – Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards
- **Statewide** – A county-equivalent geography assigned to employers without a fixed location within a state (or of unknown county location). Employers who report data for multiple locations under one common location are also given a statewide classification.

# County Business Patterns



## Using the Homepage

U.S. Department of Commerce | Blogs | Index A-Z | Glossary | FAQs

Search

### Topics

Population, Economy

### Geography

Maps, Products

### Library

Infographics, Publications

### Data

Tools, Developers

### Surveys/Programs

Respond, Survey Data

### Newsroom

News, Blogs

### About Us

Our Research

Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > County Business Patterns (CBP)

## County Business Patterns (CBP)

About this Program

Data

Library

News & Updates

Technical

Documentation

CBP is an annual series that provides subnational economic data by industry. This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll.



Data is available:

- through AFF
- downloadable (in CSV)
- by the Congressional District tool (under latest)
- API

### Latest

News

Updates

Data



### California Takes Top Three Spots in Employment Growth

April 20, 2017

San Francisco, Riverside and San Bernardino led the nation in annual employment growth among the top 50 U.S. counties with the most employees.



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Last updated: 07/19/2017

<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>



# County Business Patterns



## Using the Data Page



U.S. Department of Commerce | Blogs | Index A-Z | Glossary | FAQs

Topics

Population, Economy

Geography

Maps, Products

Library

Infographics, Publications

Data

Tools, Developers

Surveys/Programs

Respond, Survey Data

Newsroom

News, Blogs

About Us

Our Research

Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > County Business Patterns (CBP) > Data

## County Business Patterns (CBP)

About this Program

### Data

CBP Data Tables

CBP Datasets

CBP by Congressional District

API

Library

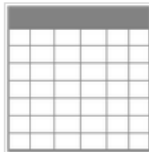
News & Updates

Technical Documentation

### Data

County Business Patterns has been produced as a consistent, annual series since 1964 and ZIP Code Business Patterns since 1994. Printed reports were published annually through 2004 and at irregular intervals dating back to 1946. Printed volumes in major depository libraries are the only forms in which data are available prior to 1986.

Visit The National Archives to find files for years prior to 1986.



#### CBP Data Tables

CBP data tables are available in American Factfinder from 2004-present



#### CBP Datasets

CBP data are available in downloadable CSV format, along with record layouts and reference guides, from 1986-present.



#### CBP by Congressional District

My Congressional District tool allows data users to view the most recent CBP data and American Community Survey data by congressional district.



Economic Statistics

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Last updated: 07/19/2017

<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>

## Accessing Data using American FactFinder (AFF)

[Census.gov](#) > [Our Surveys & Programs](#) > [County Business Patterns \(CBP\)](#) > [Data](#) > [CBP Data Tables](#)

### County Business Patterns (CBP)

## About this Program

## Data

## CBP Data Tables

## CBP Datasets

CBP by Congressional District

## API

## Library

## News & Updates

## Technical Documentation

## CBP Data Tables

U.S., States, and Counties tables start from 1998 to current year.

Puerto Rico tables start from 2003 to current year.

Island Areas tables start from 2008 to current year.

ZIP Codes tables start from 1998 to current year.

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas tables start from 1998 to current year.

Congressional District tables start from 2013 to current year.

Beginning February 1, 2017, the Censtats databases located on the [censtats.census.gov](http://censtats.census.gov) website will no longer be available through that site as we consolidate older dissemination systems. Censtats, one of the earliest data access tools on [census.gov](http://census.gov), provides access to data from several programs, including County Business Patterns. While the applications in Censtats will no longer be available, the data are available through the American Fact Finder.

Data User Notice posted on April 20, 2017: In July 2016, Census Bureau staff identified a processing error that affects selected data from 2014 County Business Patterns (CBP). At that time, we suppressed the affected estimates in published tables. With the release of the 2016 CBP, we revised the 2014 employment and payroll totals in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector (Sector 62) for the following geographies: U.S.; Michigan; Battle Creek, MI metro area; Calhoun County, MI; the 3rd congressional district of Michigan; and ZIP code 49101. This processing error did not affect other sectors.

*If you have comments on the retirement of this system, please send them to: [cnmp.web.comments@census.gov](mailto:cnmp.web.comments@census.gov)*

For more information on how to access CBP data on [American FactFinder \(AFF\)](#), please click [here](#) to reference our Data User Guide.

All 2015 2014 2013 2012 ▶


### Congressional Districts - 2015

The data are shown at the 115th Congressional District, and at the 2-digit NAICS code levels.


### Employment Size Class Tables - 2015

The data are shown by the employment size class of establishment, and at the 2- through 6-digit NA


/dbp/congress-dist

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas Tables - 2015

The data are shown at the Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and at the 2- through 6-digit

To access data using AFF, simply click on any of the tables on the CBP Data Tables page. You will then be prompted to select a desired geography (for example, state).

# County Business Patterns



## Accessing Data using American FactFinder (AFF)

United States Census Bureau

AMERICAN FactFinder

Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER

**Advanced Search** - Search all data in American FactFinder

1 Advanced Search 2 Table Viewer

Result 1 of 1 VIEW ALL AS PDF

CB1500A11 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns 2015 Business Patterns

Table View

Actions: Modify Table Add/Remove Geographies Bookmark/Save Print Download Create a Map

This table is displayed with default industry codes. Not all rows may be displayed below. Click Back to Search to select other industry codes using the search options on the left.

The table contains a total of 3,169,793 data rows.

Release Date : 04/20/2017

NOTE: Data based on the 2015 County Business Patterns. CBP html tables and download files can be found at the County Business Patterns Website. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see Survey Methodology. Data in this table represent those available when this report was created; data may not be available for all NAICS industries or geographies. Excludes most government employees, railroad employees, and self-employed persons.

View Geography Notes View Table Notes

Geographic area name	2012 NAICS code	Meaning of 2012 NAICS code	Year	Number of establishments	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	First-quarter payroll (\$1,000)	Annual payroll (\$1,000)
Autauga County, Alabama	00	Total for all sectors	2015	844	10,454	76,437	321,433
Autauga County, Alabama	11	Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	2015	7	70	790	3,566
Autauga County, Alabama	21	Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	2015	3	82	713	3,294

Versions of this table are available for the following years: 2015 2014 2013

After selecting the appropriate geography, you will see the data on AFF. To change the data- click on Advanced Search.

# County Business Patterns



## Accessing Data using American FactFinder (AFF)

United States Census Bureau

AMERICAN FactFinder

Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH **ADVANCED SEARCH** DOWNLOAD CENTER

**Search** - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results

**Your Selections**

**Search using...**

Program:  
Business Patterns

State  
All States within United States and Puerto Rico

NAICS/NAICS Based Industry  
113310: Logging

clear all selections and start a new search

load search | save search

**Search using the options below:**

**Topics**  
(age, income, year, dataset, ...)

**Geographies**  
(states, counties, places, ...)

**Race and Ethnic Groups**  
(race, ancestry, tribe)

**Industry Codes**  
(NAICS industry, ...)

**EEO Occupation Codes**  
(executives, analysts, ...)

**Search Results: 1-25 of 42 tables and other products match 'Your Selections'**

topic or table name state, county or place (optional)

Refine your search results:

☒ topics ☐ race/ancestry ☐ industries ☐ occupations

Selected:

Show results from: All available years

ID	Table, File or Document Title	Dataset
CB1500A11	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2015 Business Patterns
CB1500A12	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2015 Business Patterns
CB1500A13	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2015 Business Patterns
CB1500A14	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2015 Business Patterns
CB1500A15	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2015 Business Patterns
CB1400A11	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2014 Business Patterns
CB1400A12	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2014 Business Patterns
CB1400A13	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2014 Business Patterns
CB1400A14	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2014 Business Patterns
CB1400A15	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2014 Business Patterns
CB1300A11	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2013 Business Patterns
CB1300A12	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2013 Business Patterns
CB1300A13	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2013 Business Patterns

Customize your search in Advanced Search...

1. Under **Topics**, select **Business Patterns** as the Program.
2. Filter data by **Geographies** (U.S., state, county, ZIP, metropolitan and micropolitan areas, or congressional district).
3. Filter by **Industry Codes** (NAICS)

Datasets will be sorted by year, starting with the most recent.



# County Business Patterns



## AFF Features

Search Results: 1-25 of 42 tables and other products match 'Your Selections' per page: 25

Refine your search results:  topic or table name  state, county or place (optional)  ?

☒ topics ☐ race/ancestry ☐ industries ☐ occupations

2 Selected      ?

Show results from: All available years

ID	Table, File or Document Title	Dataset
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CB1500A11 <b>Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns</b>	2015 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1500A12 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2015 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1500A13 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2015 Business Pat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CB1500A14 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2015 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1500A15 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2015 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1400A11 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2014 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1400A12 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2014 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1400A13 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2014 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1400A14 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2014 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1400A15 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2014 Business Pat
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1300A11 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2013 Business Patterns
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1300A12 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2013 Business Patterns
<input type="checkbox"/>	CB1300A13 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2013 Business Patterns

- Open by simply clicking on table title (1)
- OR check off the boxes of multiple tables (2) and ...
- ...click View (3)

# County Business Patterns



## AFF Features

United States Census Bureau

AMERICAN FactFinder

Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER

Advanced Search - Search all data in American FactFinder

1 Advanced Search 2 Table Viewer

Result 1 of 2 VIEW ALL AS PDF

CB1500A11 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns 2015 Business Patterns

Table View

Actions: **Modify Table** Add/Remove

Not all rows may be displayed below.  
Click Back to Search to select other geographies

The table contains a total of 3,169,793 data rows

Release Date : 04/20/2017

NOTE: Data based on the 2015 County Business Patterns. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, and other data issues, visit [factfinder.census.gov](http://factfinder.census.gov). Data in this table represent those available when this release was prepared.

Table Tools: Reset Table Show Hidden Rows/Columns Transpose Rows/Columns

Click 'Back to Search' to select other tables or geographies

Legend: ☒ show/hide rows and columns ☒ collapse/expand data categories ☒ rearrange columns ☒ rearrange rows ☒ sort ascending/descending ☒ filter rows

Not all rows may be displayed below.  
Click Back to Search to select other geographies or industry codes using the search options on the left.

BACK TO ADVANCED SEARCH

Versions of this table are available for the following years: 2015 2014 2013 2012

Geographic area name	2012 NAICS code	Meaning of 2012 NAICS code	Year	Number of establishments	Paid employees for pay period including (number)
Alabama	113310	Logging	2015	519	
Alaska	113310	Logging	2015	29	
Arizona	113310	Logging	2015	12	
Arkansas	113310	Logging	2015	330	
California	113310	Logging	2015	197	1,511
Colorado	113310	Logging	2015	37	89

Modify Table allows data users to Show Hidden Rows/Columns, such as noise flags.

# County Business Patterns



## Searching for Statewide in AFF

**United States Census Bureau** **AMERICAN FactFinder**

Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH **ADVANCED SEARCH** DOWNLOAD CENTER

**Search** - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results

**Your Selections**

Search using...  
Program: Business Patterns **1**  
clear all selections and start a new search  
load search | save search

Search using the options below:

Topics (age, income, year, dataset, ...)

**Geographies (states, counties, places, ...)** **2**

Race and Ethnic Groups (race, ancestry, tribe)

Industry Codes (NAICS industry, ...)

EEO Occupation Codes (executives, analysts, ...)

**Select Geographies**

List Name Address Map

Enter a geography name or use the Geography Filter Options below:  
Enter a geography name (Alabama, Marengo County, ...) GO **3**

**Your Geography Filters**

Search: statewide  
clear all filters

**Geography Filter Options**

Geographic Type  
State (55)  
County (55)

Summary Level  
Within State  
Geographic Component

Include in results:  
☒ All geographies  
☐ Individual geographies  
☐ Groups of geographies

☒ Show Geographic Components (e.g., urban, rural) **4**

Select geographies to add to Your Selections

Select from:  
☒ most requested geographic types ☐ all geographic types ☐ individual blocks

**Geography Results: 1-25 of 110**

Selected: Add Check All Clear All Reset S

Geography Name	Geography Type	About
<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> California -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Florida -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/> Georgia -- Statewide	State	i

To search for statewide data in AFF:

1. Make sure Business Patterns is selected (under Program).
2. Select Geographies
3. Under 'Enter a geography name or use the Geography Filter Options below:', type 'statewide' and hit enter
4. Be sure to select the 'Show Geographic Components (e.g., urban, rural)' box under Geography Filter Options.



# County Business Patterns



## Downloading Data in American FactFinder

Table View

Actions: Hide Table Tools | Add/Remove Geographies | Bookmark/Save | Print | **Download** | Create a Map

Table Tools: Reset Table | Show Hidden Rows/Columns | Transpose Rows/Columns

Click 'Back to Search' to select other tables or geographies

Legend: ☒ show/hide rows and columns | ☒ collapse/expand data categories

Not all rows may be displayed below.  
Click Back to Search to select other geographies or industry codes

The table contains a total of 3,169,793 data rows.

Release Date : 04/20/2017

NOTE: Data based on the 2015 County Business Patterns. CBP html tables are for informational purposes only. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, etc., see the documentation. Data in this table represent those available when this report was created; data may be revised.

Download

I want to download the data to ... ?

☒ Use the data (e.g., in a spreadsheet or database)

The following content options are available for this Comma-Separated Value (.csv) download:

☒ Merge the annotations and data into a single file?

☒ Include descriptive data element names?

☐ View the data (e.g., as a presentable document)

OK CANCEL

Geographic area name | 2012 NAICS code

Geographic area name	2012 NAICS code
Alabama	113310
Alaska	113310
Arizona	113310
Arkansas	113310
California	113310
Colorado	113310
Connecticut	113310
Delaware	113310
Florida	113310
Georgia	113310

Versions of this table are available for the following years:

2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006

To download the desired table, select your preferred options, click OK, and then click **Download**.



# County Business Patterns



## Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

Data users can download CBP datasets in CSV format by clicking on **CBP Datasets** and selecting the desired year.

Data files are available from 1986 to 2015

U.S. Department of Commerce

Search

United States Census Bureau

Topics  
Population, Economy

Geography  
Maps, Products

Library  
Infographics, Publications

Data  
Tools, Developers

Surveys/Programs  
Respond, Survey Data

Newsroom  
News, Blogs

About Us  
Our Research

Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > County Business Patterns (CBP) > Data > CBP Datasets

### County Business Patterns (CBP)

About this Program

- Data
  - CBP Data Tables
  - CBP Datasets**
  - CBP by Congressional District
  - API
- Library
- News & Updates
- Technical Documentation

#### CBP Datasets

This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. In addition, the record layouts and the references for industry and geographies are available within their year.

Complete downloadable data files in comma-separated values (CSV) format from 1986 to current year.

Visit The National Archives to find files for years prior to 1986.

Page 1 of 2 >

**County Business Patterns: 2015**  
April 20, 2017

**County Business Patterns: 2014**  
April 24, 2016

**County Business Patterns: 2013**  
April 23, 2015  
Congressional District data started in 2013.

**County Business Patterns: 2012**  
May 29, 2014



## Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

U.S. Department of Commerce | Blogs | Index A-Z | Glossary | FAQs

Topics  
Population, Economy

Geography  
Maps, Products

Library  
Infographics, Publications

Data  
Tools, Developers

Surveys/Programs  
Respond, Survey Data

Newsroom  
News, Blogs

About Us  
Our Research

Census.gov > County Business Patterns: 2015

### Data

Data Tools and Apps

Developers

Mobile Apps

Product Catalog

Related Sites

Software

Training & Workshops

#### County Business Patterns: 2015

April 20, 2017

Tweet Share

This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. This data is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas; analyzing economic changes over time; and as a benchmark for other statistical series, surveys, and databases between economic censuses. Businesses use the data for analyzing market potential, measuring the effectiveness of sales and advertising programs, setting sales quotas, and developing budgets. Government agencies use the data for administration and planning.

#### Datasets

- Complete County File [15.6 MB]
- Complete Metropolitan Area File [7.5 MB]
- Complete County Equivalents for Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete State File [10.9 MB]
- Complete U.S. File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete ZIP Code Industry Detail File [28.1 MB]
- Complete ZIP Code Totals File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete Congressional District File [<1.0 MB]

#### Record Layouts

2015

County Record Layout [<1.0 MB]

2015

State Record Layout [<1.0 MB]

#### Related Information

CBP Datasets

Once selecting a year, you will have access to all available datasets for that year.

Record layouts are also available for reference.

Datasets are available as .ZIP files which may contain multiple files

# County Business Patterns



## Additional Links

### Further help

Help with County Business Patterns Data

- Phone: (301)763-2580
- E-mail: [ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov](mailto:ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov)

Help with American FactFinder (economic data only)

- Phone: (301)763-5185
- E-mail: [econ.dissemination@census.gov](mailto:econ.dissemination@census.gov)

Help with American FactFinder (demographic and other data)

- Phone: (301)763-INFO(4636)
- Website: <https://ask.census.gov/newrequest.php>

Related links:

- 2012 Economic Census: <http://www.census.gov/econ/census/>
- American FactFinder: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>
- Business Dynamics Statistics: <https://www.census.gov/ces/dataproducts/bds/>
- Census Bureau Other Economic Programs: [http://www.census.gov/econ/other\\_econ.html](http://www.census.gov/econ/other_econ.html)
- Nonemployer Statistics: <http://www.census.gov/econ/nonemployer/>
- North American Industry Classification System: <http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>
- Statistics on U.S. Businesses: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html>